## "END OF A MISSION."

The Correspondence Between Minister Motley and Secretary Fish Concerning the Former's Recall.

SECRET HISTORY OF HIS MISSION.

Motley's Own Memoirs of an Ambassador.

His Peremptory Recall by the President.

The Minister's Refusal to Resign and His Protest Against the "Outrage" of His Removal.

The Alabama Claims Untouched in His Instructions.

Secretary Fish's Answer in Rebuttal.

A Positive Departure from His Instructions in the Alabama Question the Cause of His Removal.

What He Told Lord Clarendon, and what Secretary Fish Told Him.

Other and Minor Lanses on the Part of the Ambassador.

St. Domingo Nothing to do With His Removal.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 9, 1870. The following correspondance relative to the recall of Minister Motley was laid before the Senate

Mr. Motley to Mr. Fish. LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES, LONDON, Dec. 7, 1870.

Referring to my despatch, No. 525, I have now the honor to state that your despatch, No. 285, accompanying a letter addressed by the President to her Malesty the Queen, ann uncing my recall, was read by me on the 22d ult. I had an interview with the principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs on the same day, and verbally communicated to him the land, but was intending to return very soon to Windsor Castle, it was agreed, between Lord Granville and myself that it would be best to defer for a few days my formal note announcing that I had been entrusted with the above mentioned letter of the President. Accordingly, on the 29th ult, I made written communication to his Lordship, a copy of

On the 4th inst. I received a notification announcing that her Majesty would receive me on the 6th inst., and on the same day a letter from Lord Granville, of which a copy is annexed. On the 6th inst. I had the honor of taking leave of her Majesty,

inst. I had the honor of taking leave of her Majesty, and of stating, in accordance with your instructions, the desire of the President to maintain the friendly relations which now so napply subsist between the two countries. Upon retaining from the mission, upon the thinst, I committed the archives and jother property into the hands of Mr. Moran, who has now charge of the Legation.

Having thus closed my brief mission at this court I think it proper to place on record a statement of the mainer in which it has been terminated. On the 25th of June last I read in the telegraphic intelligence from the United States of a London journal factannouncement, un official, but verified by subsequent events, that the President of the United States had signified his intention of removing me from my post. It would be impossible for any diplomatic agent to believe himself more thoroughly possessing the confidence of the government which he had the honor to serve than I supposed myself to enjoy at that moment. No intimation of a contemplated change had been made to me. No shadow of a dimerance of opinion existed between the President and his government and misself as to our relations with Creal Extractor.

intimation of a coarempiated change had been made to me. No shadow of a diagrence of opinion extated between the Pre-sident and his government and myself as to our telations with Great Britain or any other Power, or as to the general policy of his administration, and I was at that very period engaged in as delicate and confidential a diplomatic correspondence with yourself and the British government upon several important matters as could well be conflated by a government to us foreign agent.

The report in the newspapers I dismissed, therefore, as an idle rumor, the President of the United States being meapable, as I believed, of thus dealing with a public servant whom he had humself so feently appointed. Had a change been contemplated I selt certain that I should have been privately mformed of it first and the public afterwards. Had any charges of detellation of duty been possible I was sure that they would have been preferred to my face so that I might have the opportunity of answering them. Had the public service, or even the extgencies of party politics, made a change in this mission necessary in the opinion of the President, I could not doubt that a courteous despatch would have apprised me of the fact and the reasons, coupled with the acknowledgment to which I felt myself cuttled, that I had been because in which I felt myself cuttled, that I had been because I would at once have offered my resignation.

Nin cen days later than the appearance of the original amountement, frequently repeated and commented upon by the Joarnals of the United

Mir cen days later than coordinal announcement, frequently repeated and comminated upon by the journals of the United States and this country, I had the honor to receive on the 1sth of July a letter from yourself to the fol-

Complying with the request contained in your hrief telegram, received a few hours earlier than your letter (midnigot, 12th July), which was to this effect:—

effect:—
Am directed to say the President would like an answer by telegraph to my letter of lat inst. I sent you on the 14th of July a telegram in cypher,

I respectfully request you to inform the President that I feer competed to occurre the offer which he makes me in giving me an opportunity of resigning my post, for consider-ations which are set forth in ini in my letter of to-day.

ations which are set forth in this my letter of to-day.

The telegraph soon informed the world that a gentleman was nominated to the Senate as my successor on that same day, the 14th of July, and that he was confirmed on the 15th.

Thus my reception of the President's first and only no liberation to me, my refusal by telegraph to resign, the nomination of a successor and his confirmation by the Senate were all compressed within about forty-ethic hours. My letter of even date was sent in the despatch bag of that day, but of course could not arrive and many days later. It was in these words:

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES?

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES?

these words:—

LEGARION OF THE UNITED STATES?

SIE—I have the honor to receive, your private letters, from which I learn this, you are inducted by the President to say that he nois it near rather to make a change in the mission to England, and that he wishes to allow me the opportunity of resigning in case I wishes to allow me the opportunity of resigning in case I wishes to allow me the opportunity of resigning in case I wishes to allow me the opportunity of resigning in case I wishes to allow me the opportunity of resigning in case I wishes to allow me for instance with the request committed the above eithed telegram on these words—the text of the above eithed telegram was then given—the text of the above eithed telegram was then given—the exist of the above clothed telegram was then given.

I have now to observe, in further explanation of my contract that an no reasons are given why I should realign the poet to wid h I was appointed by the President inteen mouths mgo with, the cut of manning to my with the profit of having ever omitted to carry out to the best of my addity the policy and networks on once, and as I am not conscious of basing ever omitted to carry out to the best of my addity the policy and networks to carry out to the best of my addity the policy and networks one of the realism during the period of my mission, if all one of the president only is hould be asked to offer my resignation. Certainly it is not my wish to emburrance an administration are ruled me to realign it would nearly to the permission and the archives an administration are ruled me to realign it would nearly to be president on the contract of the permission and the removal which I have a archives of the department and of this legation to be free from Intentional leads, and as I have therefore no reason to allow the structure scending in this regard, I do not like heart of the cent the appearance of making a contrary admission. A man is sometimes permitted, as a favor, to resign a found of the cent the appearance of making a co one of motor and respects, milly in order to escape examina-tion, censure and removal. but resignation, under sach cri-quistances, is not a voluntary act, and does not seem to me o differ escentially train removal. Such a proceeding on my mark would perhaps be missincerated by many both at home and alread whose commons I varies. With great respect, yours very traily,

I suppose, of course, that this letter duly reached | rec

you although its receipt has never been acknowledged, nor, indeed, has a single line since your above quoted letter been received by me in reward to my removal or to the appointment of one or another gentleman to this post, until the arrival of your before mentioned despatch of the loth of November last.

It would be difficult to treat an envoy of the United States, accredited to the sovereign of a powerful government, with a more marked disrespect to the efficial bosition, or for his fielings as a loyal cirizen of the republic, than has been done in my case. So far as I am aware no regularly confirmed Minister at this Court has ever been removed by the President who appointed him. It has generally been admitted in our country that power and responsibility are insepar ble, and that republican institutions are founded upon reason, justice and honor, not upon arbitrary will. Yet the government of the United States has deliberately wrought as much injury to my reputation in an honorable profession as it could do, and there is not a charge against me. My amount of the profession in the country men. The American people are just and honorable, and I should be pained if they believed me unfattant to the high truet reposed in me, or to have been at any time deficient in maintaining their honor or inseests. Many far abler men than myself, illustrious statesmen beside whose names my own cannot even be mentioned, have preceded me in this office, but not one has ever been more zessious or assiduous, or more anxiously resolved to obey the instructions of his government. The egotism of this despatch is not in accordance with my taste or my feelings; but the government. The egotism of this despatch is not in accordance with my taste or my feelings; but the government nas placed me in a position in which self-selfence is imperative. This much I owe to the dignity of an office which has been insulted in my prison; to my character, which has been subjected to miligoant and anonymous attacks. It is of tery grave consequence that

deliaquent Minister, and yet that there should be no default.

The position of United States Minister at this Court is a laborious one, and my whole time has been devoted to its duties. The Naturalization Treaty, the proposed Consular Convention, the attainment of the release by her Majesty's government of American citizens confined in British prisons for complicity with Fernan matters, a ong others, especially entrus ed to me, nave been either concluded or are upon the point of miniment, as appears by my latest correspondence. As to the so-casted Alabama negonations, I nover received a power in regard to them, the government naving nitherto thought it best to keep them suspended and to conduct them when resumed at Wasaington. And now, in the proband shence of the government in regard to this sudden change, I am obliged to seek emightenment at a source whence a diplomatic agent does not usually expect his original and only information as to himself and his mission. From ramor alone I derived all the facts connected with my obsmissal, and rumor has vaguely attempted From ramor alone I derived all the facts connected with my ofsmissal, and rumor has veguely attempted to micrate as cause. It is not for me to say whether reasons are legally necessary; but neither governments nor individuals, however arbitrary, can escape the tribunal of the public conscience. It has been said that I volunteered to prepare my own instructions; that when prepared they were submitted to and disapproved by you as not boing in accordance with the views of the administration; that I was subsequently agraphed. paned they were submitted to and disapproved by you as not being in accordance with the views of the administration; that I was subsequently turnished by you with the instructions of the President; that on my first interview with the late Lord Clarendon I suppressed those instructions and submitted to the Engish Secretary of State my own private views, contained in the paper which and been disapproved and which were in direct opposition to those of the President, and, moreover, that I formally presented those views in writing to the Engish government as the policy of the President. Certainly, if this take were true, it would have been the duty of the President, as soon as the lacis became known to him, to recall me without a moment's delay. Diplomatic intercourse between mattons would be impossible if an agent should be retained in office who deliberately and intentionally violates the metructions of as gevernment. But the tale is laise, and in order to dispresse it is fift take the inberty of recalling certain important facts to your recollection.

After the President had honored me with the appointment of Amister to this Court I employed myself in the interval or waiting for my instructions at Washington in examming the archives and reviving my recollections of previous important negotiations and discussions between the governments of the United States and Great Eritain. In so doing I drew up a historical memour, concerning which there occurred some entirely informal conversation between yoursel and one or two other freeds of mine, and it was

Great Britain. In so doing I drew up a historical memoir, concerning which there occurred some entirely informal conversation between yourself and one or two other friends of mine, and it was suggested that it might be worth your while to read the paper, if you could flid leasure time to do so. It was accordingly sent to you, and subsequently returned to me with no expression of dissent as to any of its views, but with an intimation on your part—in the wistom of which I entirely acquiesced—that it was thought best by the President, in consequence of the excitement existing in both countries by reason of the rejection of the convention of the lifth January, 1864, to suspend for a limited time the discussion of the disferences between the two countries. From that day to tais there has been no question in regard to this memoir. It has laid undisturbed among my papers. It has never been seen or heard of by any memoer of the British government or by any person whatever in this country. So far as I am informed no one but yourself and two other American firends ever saw it, and not one line of it has ever been used by me officially or privately. The instructions in your No. 3, were delivered to me on the morning of my departure from New York for Liveryoo. Calling upon Lord Clarendon as an old acquaintaine at his private residence on the day after my arrival, I took pains to state, as appears by his despatch to Mr. Thornton (aoth June, 1869, published in parliamentary papers nearly a year ago), that I preferred not to enter upon matters of business that day, as my instructions had only been delivered to me when on the point of embarkation, and I had not yet had time to sufficiently consider them. I solemnly assert that I was actuated at that moment of arrival and at every moment since by the earnest desire and determination to carry out the President's lostructions with reyaity and to the own of the president's lostructions with reyaity and to the own in dividual opinions as those of the government. So far as my fumble President's instructions with reyaity and to the best of my ability, and never intentionally to propound my own individual opinions as those of the government. So dar as my humble services could contribute to the result, it was my wish that nothing should be left undone on my part to make his civil administration as successful as his military career had been glorious. It was, as I supposed, understood before my departure for England, although not publicly announced, that the so-called Alabama negotiations, whenever renewed, should be conducted at Washington in case of the consent of the British government. I had been instructed, hewever, to suggest to that government that there should be a suspension of all discussion of disputed questions for a short time, in order to allow the subsidence of exchement or irritation growing out of the negotiation of reject on of the convention of the lath of January, 1862. This suggestion I made at the outset of my first official interview with Lord Carendon, which took place on the 10th of June, 1863, and we had then a full conversation on the general relations between the two countries. I was not authorized to read him these, your first general instructions, still less to furnish him a copy of them. Such a course would have been opposed to diplomatic usage. I was allowed, in my discretion, to communicate certain views, and I proceeded in the exercise of that discretion to render the substance of your paper of instructions, folio pages, with as much accuracy as to the order of topics, tone of thought and general phraseology as it was possible for me to do in a familiar conversation. The full record of that conversation is made in my No. 8. It reveals throughout an earnest disposition on my part to reproduce your instructions with fideling. On receiving that communication you addressed me a conversus, candid and free adily despate,, in which there were some criticisms upon certain portions of my natrative. I take leave o quote my this place the whole of that despatch, because i

pressions of mine during the whole course of my mission;—
[No. 23.]

Department of State, 
Washington, June 23, 1859.,

Sir.—I have to acknowledge the recept of your despatch No. 8, dated June 12, and have read wit much interest its marraity of your very important four-tiew with Lord Clareddon, Your general presentation and freatment of the several subjects discussed in that interview meet the approval of this department. In the course of the conversation, nowever, it seems that the President's view of the right of every Power, when a civil condition has arisen within another State, to do not be a civil condition has a risen within another State, to do not be not relations and those of its citizens was not conveyed in precise conformity to that view as I desired to present it to you, and as it would doubtless have been conveyed by you had your communication been made in writing. The subject may not again be a tople of official communication between yoursel and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, but I venture to call your attention to it because of the statement in your despatch that Lord Clareddon observed at that part of your remarks that if there was to be any decussion of the principles it had better be done thoroughly and to the bottom. The President recognizes the importance of a thorough discussion, whenever the subject is resumed, upon all the points of difference. He wishes that whenever negotiation or discussion on the subject of the Alabama claims, so called, shall be renewed, they be conducted in the United States, and he desires that at the proper time you should convey this wish to the Minister for Foreign Affairs. It is impossible to say at present when that time will arrive; but it will certainly have arrived whenever the British government shall propose a discussion or shall intimate a desire to recept the negotiation. In the meantime you may be well content to rest the question on the very foreible presentation you have made of the American side of the question, it was strongly done, and if there

The paragraph of your instructions especially alluded to by you in the above mentioned letter is as follows:—

The President recognizes the right of every Power, when a civil conflict has arisen within another State and has obtained a samed-of complexity, in gnitude and completeness, to define its own relations and those of its citizons and subjects towards the parties to the conflict. For excessing and propriety of the original concession of beligherency by virest first and interests are necess rily affected by the conflict. The necessity and propriety of the original concession of beligherency by virest first at the time it was made have been contested and are not a limited. They certainly are questionable; but the fresident regards that concession as a part of the case only so far as it shows the beginning and the antimus of that course of conduct which resulted so disastrously to the United States. It is important in that it foreshadowed subsequent events. There were other Powers that were contemporate course with England only that the concession was supplemented by acids causing direct damage to the United States. The President in careful to make this determination, because he is anxious as much as possible to simplify the case and bring into view these su sequent acts, which are so important to determine the question between the two countries.

In my conversation, endeavoring to report in my own words the substance of the whole paper, I said in regard to this paragraph as appears by the record. I then stated the opinion of the President

in regard to the recognition or concession of belliger ney as stated in your No. 3, saying that the President recognized the right of a sovereign rower to issue a proclamation of neutrality between an insurgent portion of a nation and the lawful government when such insurrection should have gained the necessary magnitude, consisteacy, extent of organized power and probability of justification by success, but that such measures must be taket -.th a full sense of the grave responsibilities incurred. The famous proclamation of neutrality of the 15th of May, 1861, was not considered justifiable by the United States government; but the President wished it to be used whose our case should once more be presented only as shewing animus and as being the fountain head or the disasters which had been caused to the American peoide, both individually and collectively, by the hands of Englishmen, their nations had issued proclamations contemporaneously, or learly so, with that of Great Britain; but from Great Britain alone had come a long series of deeds injurious to the United States as fruits of the proclamation, whice from other nations there had come to injury save the escianation tiself.

Nothing jurther on the subject occurred. The panse

come a long series of deeds injurious to the United States as fruits of the proclamation, while from other nations there had come no injury save the declaration itself.

Nothing further on the subject occurred. The panse recommended by you was scrupulously observed until the arrival of your despatch of the 25th of September, 1-6), in which you informed me that the President was inclined to believe that sufficient time had chapsed to allow subsidence of emotions, and that thus it might be opportune to place in my hands, for appropriate use, a dispassionale exposition of the just causes of complaint of the government of the United States gainst that of Great Britain. On rice ving that despatch, in order to avoid a possibility of misunderstanding the President's instructions, it immediately telegraphed to you for permission to furnish a copy of it to Lord Charendon, as you only instructed me to read it to him. You replied by authorizing me to send a copy if he should ask for it in writing. This was accordingly done without delay. As Lord Charendon's language at the interview in June had been significant and decided in regard to the expediency of aostaning at that moment from the discussion of exciting questions, unless they were fully debated; as his expressions of friendship towards the United States and of abhorrence of even the possibility of war between the two countries were singularly warm, and as his part in the conversation was most important and interesting, I had taken the precaution, before sunding you a despatch on the subject, to request him confidentially to read over the record waten I had made of our conference, it was expressly understood between us that no one should lock at it but himself, and that not a single note of its contents should be made. Conscious that I had one so, I wished to be sure that I had correctly reported what Lord Charendon had sain and to avoid the possibility of fature differences of recollections. This proceeding, entirely in accordance with the best diplomatic usages and

dressed, on the same day, the following note to Lord Charendon (published in the Guzzette 2:th of December, 1863):

Legation of the United States, it is a superior to the conversation which I had with your lordship on the Loth of June isat, and to the despatch from the United States Secretary of State which I had the honor to read to you on the loth inst, it may have possibly appeared that there was some inconsistency between the views of the President upon the subjects of the recognition of the late insurgents in the Southern States as beingerents and the destruction of American commerce by cruisers of British origin, carrying the insurgent day, as very a ly expressed by me at the interview in June, and those views as set forth in the above mentionel despatch. I think it necessary to inform your lordship, therefore, that the Secretary of State, on reception of my despatch recounting the substance of the conversation in June, concred to me, in a despatch of the 25th of June, that it did not seem that the President's view of the right of every Power, when a civil conflict has arisen in another State, to dehne its own relations and those of its clizens, hat been conveyed in precise contormity to that view as the Secretary of State desired to you on the life instal, and a copy of which I have had the honor of sending to your lordship, as the exact an authoritative statemen of the frestdent's view on the subject as laid down in all the instructions given under his directions by the Secretary of State which I read to you on the 15th inst., and a copy of which I have had the honor of sending to your lordship, as the exact an authoritative statemen of the frestdent's view on the subject as laid down in all the instructions given under his directions by the Secretary of State.

I pray your lordship to accept the assurances, &c.,

I pray your lordship to accept the assurances, &c.,

JOHN LOTHROP MOTLEY.

And on the 25th of October I wrote a note to you,

by the Secretary of State.

I pray your lordship to accept the assurancea, &c.,

JOHN LOTHEOP MOTLEY.

And on the 26th of October I wrote a note to you,
from which the following is an extract:—

Had I submitted the whole case in writing on my first arrival instead of conversation (whice would have been cidential and unusual I should, of course, have used the very words of your instructions, so as to transmit with absolute exactness their tenor. My whalls to conform with entire fidelity to the fresident's views and your directions.

I doubt whether Lord Charendon observed any marked inconsistency between the views as verbally stated by me on June to and as set forth in your No. 70, which I read to him on the 15th of October. At any rate he made no comments to such effect either during the reading or after it had been concluded.

It ever diplomatic incident not profoundly important in itself could be considered as terminated certainly here was one. To suppose that an unintentional and almost imperceptible variation in the veroal rendering by a Minister of a single paragraph in a long despatch, scrapilousity set right on the first opportunity, could be cause or justification of that Minister's sudden dismissal from office thirteen months afterwards, without a word of explanation, is monstrous. Penalty, even under the most arbitrary and frresponsible government, would follow at once upon the imaginary offence and be openly and rankly assigned.

Lord Charendon, in his reply to my letter of the 23d of october, did not admit, and never in conversation official or private, subsequently admitted, that he had discovered any inconsistency between the brief exposition made by me in the conversation in June of the President's views on belligerency, as I understood them, and the eigoorate statement on the subject contained in your No. 70, a copy of which I furnished him. It would have

statement on the subject contained in your No. 70, copy of which I furnished nim. It would have been difficult for him to do so, as my recore had not been officially summitted, and no trace of it exists in the archives of the Foreign Office. It would, it time, have been dufficult, in any event, for him or any other statesman to have discovered in the serious inconsistency. In inheten foliopages of your No. 70, of the Stiff of september, you speak of previous announcement on the 6th of that month, as having been received by the United States government with paniou astonishment." You say that "every sovereign Power decides for itself on its responsibility Whether or not it will at a given time accord the status of beliggeney to the insurgent subjects of another Power; but that the rightliness of the act depends on the occasion and the circumstances." You speak of the proclamation, as "precipitate," "unreasonable," "premature, and characterized, in the words of Mr. Bright, by remarkable celerity, undue and unfriendly haste,." You called the assumed belligerency of the insurgents "a fiction," and say that, so far as it was maritime, it proceeded from the ports of Great Britain, You characterize the recognition as "pregulcial to the legitlants government," and you say that there will be present called the action of Oreat Britain and her dependences alone, with the and and co-operation of subjects of Great Britain. You characterize the recognition as "pregulcial to the regulants government," and you say that there will be preciamation as the sign of a purpose of furfired hieses to them and of free individual to the present called the action of Oreat Britain which the present called the care of the preciamation maritime enterprises in the ports of Great Britain which would otherwise nave been piratical were rendered lawful, and thus Great Britain became, and to the end continued to be, the arsenai, the navy yard and that invasive of the instance of the sign of the preciamation of the sign of the preciamation of the de

torical fact.
I have thus recorded in my last official act a

solemn protest against the outrage, as I believe entreity without precedent, of my peremptory removal. I shall only add that, while maintaining during my brief mission, the honor and rights of the country which I had the privilege to represent, I have always reported faithfully the earnest and as I believe, the sincere desire of the British government and people to revive coratal and kindly relations between the two countries, to make reshellons for the settlement of past grievances and to provide against their future recurrence. There can be no nober ambition than to strive for such a reshift, and the statesmen who may accomplish it will deserve well of two great nations.

JOHN LOTHROP MOTLEY.

Mr. Motley to Lord Granville. LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES, LONDON, NOV. 29, 1870.

My Long-Referring to my verbal communication honor to state that I have read a letter addressed by the President of the United States to her Majesty the Queen announcing my recall from the post of the queen announcing my recall from the post of a this court. I have the honor to enclose herewith an olice copy of the President's letter, or to request your Lordship to be so good as to ascertata ta what manner it will be most agreeable for her Majesty to receive the eriginal, and to accept the expression on the part of the President of the United States, which I have been in tracted, on taking leave of her Majesty, to convey, of his desire to maintain the friendly relations which now so happily exist between the two countries.

ountries.
I have further to acquaint your Lordship that on I have further to acquaint your Lordship that on retiring from the mission I have been instructed to commit the archives of the legation into the hands of Mr. Moran, to whom, for the present, such communications as may be necessary can be addressed. In this closing my official relations with your Lordship I trust that you will permit me to express my map sense of the uniform courtesy and corditately, both on your Lordship's part and on that of the late lamented Earl Clare doo, which have so much tacilitated the discharge of my duties here, and to assure you that they have ever been highly appreciated by me.

I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration, my Lord, your Lordship's most coedient servant,

JOHN LOTHAOP MOTLEY.

To the Right Honorable the Earl of Granville, &c., &c.

Lord Granville to Mr. Motley. FOREIGN OFFICE, Dec. 5, 1870.
Sir—I have not failed to lay before the Queen your note of the 29th uit., enclosing a copy of your letter of recall, and in acquainting you that Her Majesty will grain you an audience at Windsor Castle to-morrow at three o'clock for the purpose of delivering the original. I an commanded to express to you her Majesty's sincere essee in and her regret at your departure from this country. I thank you very much for the kind expressions with regard to my predecessor and myself which are contained in your note. It was to him, as it has been to me, an agreeable duty to communicate with you on the affairs of our respective countries.

I shall be happy to andress to Mr. Moran, as you request, any communications which it may be necessary to make to the Legation.

I have the honor to be, with the high st considerations, sir, your most opedient, number servani, GRANVILLE. letter of recall, and in acquainting you that Her

Secretary Fish to Benjamin Moran, Secre tary of Legation. [No. 54.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 30, 1870.

BENJAMIN MORAN, Esq., &c.:your latest despatches purporting to be from the Legation of the United States in London, in the form of an official despatch, numbered 529, and signed by Mr. Molley, the late Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from this government to that of Great Britain. Mr. Molley relains in this paper the form and style of official correspondence, although he had ceased to hold official relations with this government. ment. He professes to write from the Legation, no longer in his charge. His paper is entitled "End of tonger in his charge. His paper is entitled "End of Mission" and extends over sixty-two pages of manuscript, of which two are given to the acknowledgment of the receipt of his letters of recall and the aleged causes of delay in their presentation, and less than one page records his taking leave and the committal to your charge of he archives and other property of the Legation. Here, it might be supposed—having reached and recorded the "end of his mission"—would be found the end of his paper. But M., Motley proceeds through hity ond pages, "rectrding the end of his mission," to place on record a statement of the "manner in which it has been terminated."

It may possibly occur to some sensitive persons

been terminated."

It may possibly occur to some sensitive persons that delicacy, not to say propriety, would suggest to a retired ordical of the government, using to place his views on the official arctaives, to make a request to that effect, which certainly would have request to that effect, which certainly would have been most cheerfully accorded to a gentleman of Mr. Motley's emment distinction and great ability. But Mr. Motley, 'naving closed his mission,' asks no permission, out assumes as a right to place his statement an record. Questioning the tasic and denying the right of this assumation, I nevertheless allow a place in the dimonnine records of the country to Mr. Motley's history of the "end of his mission."

Mr. Motley states that on the 25th day of June last Mr. Motley states that on the 23th day of June last he read in the telegraphic intelligence from the United States of a London journal the announcement of his coming removal. He had not been an attentive reader of American newspapers it the 25th day of June had arrived before the first ramor of a change which for months had been an occasional newspaper topic arressed his attention. He says, "it would be impossible for any diplomatic agent to believe himself as more thoroughly possessing the confidence of the government than he supposed himself to enjoy at that moment," and that "no shadow of a difference of opinion existed be ween the President and his government and nimself as

when the impossible for any displantant square is all interesting the properties of the structure of the government than the supposed considered of the government than the supposed missed to only at that imment, and that we have a supposed the present and its government than the supposed that the control of the government than the supposed to the President and its government and insued at 1 our relative with a supposed that the control of the government of the control of the government of the control of the government of the gov

thet irritation. This government had rejected that contection that had been necessaried by the contection that had been necessaried which forest irritant had been willing to accord. A consequent disappointment ind relation were manifested in that country which the free clean through a consequent of the president of an amende and satisfactory solutions and the same through the results from the supportation of an amende and satisfactory solutions and the same through the results from the supportation of an amende and satisfactory solutions and the same in the country from the was arrested by the remark that it to reason the same and the ar. Modey's despatch of the 12th of June, already

by them no ground of complaint. This was regardless of the time or of any supposed prematurity of such recognition.

Mr. Modey's despatch of the 12th of June, already referred to, shows now he fulfilled the trust committed to him. The defermination of this government not to abandon its claims nor those of its citizens was stated parenthelically and in such a subordinate way as not necessarily to attract the attention of Lord Clarendon, and instead of expressing the hope entertained by this government, that there would be an early, satisfactory and friendly settlement of the questions at issue, he volunteered the unincessary, and, from the manner in which atwas given, the highly objectionable statement that the United States government had no fusidious surposes; and, in violation of the spirit of his instructions, he confessed to a despondent feeling sometimes as to the possibility of the two nations ever understanding each other, and of the difficulty at his present moment of their looking into each other's nerts. He repeats almost in the dentical words he strong expressions, objectives and expletives, the stingual allusions and the cutting observations, which had been submitted in his "memoir," rejected by this department, and none of which were authorized by his instructions. He said that he had been fair that been rejected, while no such instructions had been given him. He volunteered the information that the rejection of the convention was not inthe slightest degree an affair of party. He talked of the gravity of the occasion, of the burning questions of grievinces that must continue to rankie am fester, of wounds that must continue to rankie am fester, of wounds that must continue to rankie am fester, of wounds that must continue to rankie am fester, of wounds that must be probed, of the intensity of opinion, act. The whole tone of taese remarks was in entire variance with the continuences of members, that he excited on the fathous that he wissed a one of the nearly of the resident concurred which which hi

an opportunity to prevent any further misapprehension of his views through Mr. Mottey by taking from him the right to discuss further the Alabama claims.

In the spirit of kindness and tender consideration for the feelings of Mr. Motley, my despatch of the 2sta of Jun., 1889, quoted at length cand in the main accurately, though under the date of the 2sth of June, in the paper now under consideration, was writen. The desire to avoid criticism and to save his feelings may have been carried too air in that despatch; but it was at the time chought that the wittedrawal from Mr. Motley, upon the receipt of his sits effort on the subject, of the right of any further discussion of the only very important or discussion who had devoted so much time and labor to his sint-senior on that question as so severe a rebuke and so practical a proof of want of confidence that kind words in the generalities of the despaten might be indulged.

It was not until more than a fortulght after the receipt of Mr. Motley of the despatch prohibiting his further discussion of these quistions that he wrote to the despatament informing it that his No. 8, of the 12th of June, had been submitted for verification to Lord Clarendon before its transmission been known at 19th date of my acknowledgment, on the 28th of June, of his statement, it cannot be doubted that a very different reply would have been made. The tardy report of this important fact was received here on the 4th of August when I was on a visit for only one day to Washington during a temporary vacation, and the despatch was not brought to my notice. The knowledge of 1st did not reach me until October, when the President was informed that the President's confidence and his respect for this misured that the should remain as the representative of the "overnment longer than the extremences of the public service as to the other matters specially committed to be charge might require. Proposity nes public employment would then have instantly ceased but for coasiderations presented to the Pres

sented to the resident, party or a personal mastre with respect to Mr. Mottey, but more especially as to legislations then pending for the completion of the Naturalization Colvention, for a Consular Convention and as to other matters then in discussion between the two governments.

Without violating any confidence, I am quite justified in asserting that irom october of last year until the day when his successor was nominate to the Senate Mr. Motley's retention in his position was with the reluctant approval of the Fresident and wito his irequently declared intention to name a successor at no distant day. The withdrawai of all right to discuss the Alabama question; on which he had manifested an absence of sympathy with the President and of willing ness to represent the views of the government, left no room for further mistaked on that question, and, as he had upon entering on his mission been entrusted with the completion of the Naturalization Convention and with the negotiation of a Consular treaty, on both of which he was then acavely engaged, the President was inclined to allow him to complete at least one of these before his recail. The Naturalization Convention was signed by Mr. Motley on the 13th of May last, was recurved here in the latter part of that monn, was immediately sent to the Senate, and was under consideration by that tooly in the latter days of June last. The Consular Convention promised a more protracted negotiation. On the 27th of June last Lord Cha endon died. Congress was then drawing like session to a close.

The Frestoent has never falled to desire the earnest possible adjustment of the "Alabama question." In September, 1969, before the knowledge of the submission of Mr. Motley's despatch of June 12 to Lord Charends came for the question. The death of the British simister for Foreign Affairs saggested the possibility of advancing a settlement under the successor of the deceased statesman, either by resident proportion, it had been demonstrated that the President had a proportion to the A

its adjournment I sent a cable despatch on the lath of the 1st of July. No question was entertained that Mr. Mot e, would have left it his duty on the first and antiest suggestion that a change was desired to hasten to piace that resignation in the President's analists in fact, I regarded my message of the 12th as superfluous, not doubting Mr. Motley would, without any orner suggestion than his own sense of propriety and his appreciation of the relations of a atmister to the President, have resorted to the telegraph instantiy on the receipt of the letter. I sent the despatch only because of the imminence of the adjournment of the Senate. Ex abstractante caute a.

Mr. Motley's commission expressed on its face that he was to hold his office during the pleasure of the President. In his paper he expresses the opinion that had a change been contempiated he should have bright privately atomad to it. He was to us informed before there were any other than speculative announcements, such as had for months formed the almost daily staple of newspaper gossip with respect to himself, and such as had for months formed the almost daily staple of newspaper gossip with respect to many other guidenent of high position. He thinks that he should have been apprised of the reasons coupied with "an acknowledgment that he had been zealous as an athink." I cannot admit that he had the right to require of the President the assignment of his reasons for the exercise of one of his constitutional prorogatives, nor to make terms with the President by dominang from him an acknowledgment to often acknowledgment of his soften made on the acceptance of a resignation from an officer who has proved zealous and national, and then it is significant and complimentary. I fail, nowever, to appreciate the value of one of his constitutional prorogatives, nor to make terms with the oresident with which had been realised to do the sent acceptance of the precised of the President of the sental experion of his contition of the doubt feat as to doubt, in the

Mr. Modley says that, so far as he is aware, "no regularly confirmed aliaster at the Court (London) has ever been removed by the President who appointed him." Possibly this may be so. It may also be true as to some other Courts than that of London. There have been however, frequent instances of successive Ministers to London as well as elsewhere appointed by the same President; but I have not examined, and it would be improfitable to waste time in the examination, to ascertain whether the first of the succession was removed or had resigned, or, in case of a resignation, whether or not he had been requested so to do. If